

REMARKS

In the above-referenced Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 18-19, 22-23 and 31-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by SUNDARESAN et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,463,079). The Examiner rejected claims 8-17, 20-21, 24-30 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over SUNDARESAN et al. in view of BYERS (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,472). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, at least for the reasons stated below.

In their previous Reply, filed May 27, 2003, Applicants amended each of the independent claims, claims 1, 8, 18, 24, 31 and 38, pending in the present application at least to expressly recite “implementing” or “setting up” services in the body of each claim in order to clarify that the present invention is directed to initially *provisioning* DSL services by *interfacing* with multiple network facilities, as opposed to executing the previously provisioned services. More particularly, the interfacing occurs between a server and various network facilities assigned by the server to implement the DSL service, and is enabled by interfaces corresponding to the network facilities.

Accordingly, the claimed embodiments of the present invention enable the server to implement DSL services through a variety of different types of network elements, such as different types of remote terminals (connectable to subscriber terminals) and/or optical concentrator devices, through the interfacing capability. In other words, the present invention involves determining an interface between a server that sets up the DSL service and network elements that ultimately enable the DSL service. For example, the interface allows service order data to be converted into protocols corresponding to the assigned network elements.

SUNDARESAN et al. do not teach or suggest determining an interface for each of the]

facilities needed to implement the DSL service and configuring each of the facilities using the corresponding interface, as recited in the method claims 1 and 8, as well as in the computer readable medium claims 31 and 38. The Examiner refers to Fig. 7A and col. 9, lines 44-60, of SUNDARESAN et al. to teach determining an interface corresponding to each facility. However, the interface of Fig. 7A is a graphical user interface (*i.e.*, a display screen) of a computer 500, which is part of the operational support system (“OSS”) 190. *See, e.g.*, col. 8, lines 10-11; col. 9, lines 45-47. SUNDARESAN et al. do not teach that this graphical user interface actually converts provisioning data, enabling communication with the facilities needed to implement the DSL service. Rather, the graphical user interface appears to provide the ability to monitor the status of various facilities, such as the central offices.

Further, the Examiner refers to col. 18, lines 32-62, of SUNDARESAN et al. to teach configuring each of the facilities, using the corresponding interface, to implement a service order. However, the cited portion of SUNDARESAN et al. again appears to refer to a graphical user interface. For example, SUNDARESAN et al. provides that a server system 1030 (*e.g.*, a web server accessible via the world-wide-web) may “notify the requestor with an appropriate user interface (*e.g.*, a web page containing the results).” *See* col. 17, lines 57-59; col. 18, lines 40-42. Clearly, an interface used to view web pages of information regarding various network systems, as described by SUNDARESAN et al., is different from interfaces used to communicate *between* a server and multiple corresponding facilities, as recited in the claimed embodiment of the invention. Accordingly, SUNDARESAN et al. do not teach or suggest at least determining interfaces for the facilities implementing DSL services or configuring the facilities using the corresponding interfaces,

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as recited in independent claims 1, 8, 31 and 38.

Independent claims 18 and 24 are directed to *systems* for provisioning DSL services, each of which recites a server that configures assigned network facilities using interfaces (or interface identifiers) corresponding to the assigned network facilities. The Examiner asserted the same passages of SUNDARESAN et al., discussed above, to teach a server that uses interfaces corresponding to network facilities (*i.e.*, Fig. 7A; col. 9, lines 44-60) to configure these facilities (*i.e.*, col. 18, lines 32-62). However, for the same reasons set forth above, SUNDARESAN et al. do not teach or suggest using interfaces to configure corresponding facilities to implement DSL services, as recited in independent claims 18 and 24.

Accordingly, since SUNDARESAN et al. do not disclose each and every element of claims 1, 18 and 31 of Applicants' invention, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C., § 102(b) based on SUNDARESAN et al. is respectfully requested.

With respect to claims 8, 24 and 38, the Examiner relied on BYERS to teach only configuring of an optical concentrator device, which the Examiner admitted is not taught by SUNDARESAN et al. Therefore, BYERS does not overcome the deficiencies of the primary reference, discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections based on the combination of these references is respectfully requested.

With regard to claims 2-7, 9-17, 19-23, 25-30 and 32-37, Applicants assert that they are allowable at least because they depend from independent claims 1, 8, 18, 24 and 31, respectively, which the Applicants submit have been shown to be allowable.

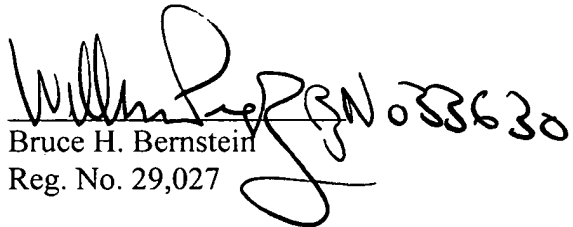
In view of the herein contained amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request

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reconsideration and withdrawal of all previously asserted rejections set forth in the Official Action of August 14, 2003, together with an indication of the allowability of all pending claims, in due course. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Reply or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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